



## King County

### Department of Community and Human Services

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### **Veteran Citizens Levy Oversight Board (VCLOB) Meeting Summary February 23, 2012 2-4 p.m.**

Renton Library – 100 Mill Ave. S., Renton 98057

#### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Doug Hoople at 2:05 p.m.

#### **Roll Call**

**Board Members Present:** Stan Gunno, Oren Hadaller, Doug Hoople - Chair, Cynthia Lefever-Vice-Chair, Kathy Lewis, Robert Stephens, Jr.

**Board Members Excused/Absent:** Roger Welles, Bill Wood

**King County Staff Present:** George Dignan, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS); Joel Estey, DCHS; Debora Gay, DCHS; Laird Heia, DCHS; Jon Hoskins, DCHS; Marcy Kubbs, DCHS; Anna Markee, DCHS.

**Guests:** Jessie Benet, King County Mental Health Chemical Addiction and Dependency Services Division (MHCADSD)

#### **Call to Order/Roll Call/Introductions**

Doug welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked those present to introduce themselves.

#### **Veterans Justice Issues –Jessie Benet/MHCADSD**

Jessie Benet, MHCADSD reviewed the implementation plan for overarching Strategy 1.5 Veterans Justice, Activity 1.5.C Emerging programs for justice involved veterans. Jessie explained that the Veterans Levy funding for this activity would support a Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) coordinator position located in MHCADSD. The VJO would coordinate implementation of the King County Veterans Justice Initiative which aligns well with the Levy Activity, Emerging programs for justice involved veteran. The three primary areas of focus for the King County Criminal Justice Initiative include:

- Veteran's treatment courts in King County such as the Regional Mental Health Court
- Systems and services coordination with justice system and government components and community-based providers including the quarterly trainings MHCADSD provides on Criminal Justice involved veterans
- Coordination of CJ trainings about veterans including training mental health and substance abuse provider agencies on veterans issues

The Service Improvement Plan (SIP) allocation for 2012 for this activity is \$150,000 which would support the VJO position. In 2013 through 2017 an additional \$155,000 per year is added, for a total of \$305,000. The additional \$155,000 is available to help support the King County's veteran's treatment court.

The board members had a number of questions about the implementation plan. In response to questions, the following information was provided:

- Performance goals and targets are in the process of being defined by Jon Hoskins, Community Services Division, Performance Measurement and Evaluation and Andrea LaFazia, MHCADSD. Recidivism rate, defined as "jail bookings", would be included as a performance measure.
- Thirty-eight cities in King County currently provide screening for Mental Health Court. If a client is deemed eligible, they are referred to the Regional King County Mental Health Court (MHC). Regional mental health court services would be available to veterans throughout King County.
- The implementation plan will be posted on the Veterans and Human Services Levy [website](#) Monday, February 27th and remain available for comment for two weeks until 4:30pm, Monday, March 12th. If there are many public comments, the board's Strategy 1 committee would meet to discuss the comments and if potential revisions to the plan are needed. If there are no public comments or additional board comments, the board will be notified of this and the plan will be considered final at its March 15, 2012 meeting.

### **Review of Meeting Summary**

The January 19, 2012 VCLOB meeting summary was approved as written.

### **Chairs Report – Douglas Hoople, Chair**

The King County Veterans Advisory Board annual meeting will be held Monday, from 6:30pm – 8:30pm at WorkSource Renton where board membership will be addressed. Veterans interested in becoming a board member are encouraged to attend.

On February 4, 2012, Doug attended the Tacoma Veterans Conference.

### **Staff Report – Marcy Kubbs/Debra Gay**

- Individual board meetings will be held in March and a Joint Board meeting will be held the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in April.
- George Dignan, Administrator for Employment and Education Resources (EER), is developing an implementation plan for the King County Veterans Aerospace Initiative. Discussions are taking place on how to provide trained workers for the growing aerospace industry. In response to this need and the need for training/employment opportunities for veterans and others in need, a proposal to use WorkSource Renton as a hub for manufacturing and aerospace training is being developed. Community colleges that provide machine courses are involved in the discussions. George will come before both boards in March to review the implementation plan and to discuss the plan to fund the initiative with unspent funds from the prior levy.

In response to questions, George commented that the Veteran's "Gold Card", though not a funded federal program, would give post 9/11 veterans preference for the training. Spouses of veterans would also be eligible. He also acknowledged that there are challenges coordinating the veterans training effort at the community colleges, with the veterans programs referring students. EER is working to improve coordination.

- Debora Gay told the board that she will review the closeout plan for the prior levy at the March board meeting. The April Joint Board meeting will include a presentation by the Evaluation Unit where they will review the 2012-2017 Levy Evaluation Implementation Plan.

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

- Board members suggested reviewing the need for strategy subcommittees.
- Cynthia would like feedback from King County staff on the status of the advisory committee associated with the Levy's trauma training activity. It was suggested that the review of the updated procurement plan for Activity 3.2 be moved up and include this as part of the discussion.
- Laird will send to board members the instructions on how to auto-forward emails.

### **Petitions/Communications (Public Comment)**

- Cynthia brought copies of a PTSD documentary and the Grateful Nation 2011 Episode 304 featuring her son, Rory. Please contact Cynthia for more details if you are interested in hosting a public screening.
- Robert shared his concern that Metro is cutting historical bus routes that connect our veterans to the VA. Contact Robert for more information

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.